





ACAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

A **TURLEY** PUBLICATION **I** www.turley.com

November 24, 2016 Vol. 38, No. 38 \$1.00

www.agawamadvertiser.turley.com

CITY COUNCIL

Trash savings expected in long haul

State grant, town borrowing of \$836K will fund standardized toters for curbside program

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

The Agawam City Council this week unanimously approved borrowing \$836,000 to buy standardized trash toters for every home.

According to the Department of Public Works Recycling Coordinator Tracy DeMaio, the new 65-gallon trash toters and 96-gallon recycling toters will allow the town's trash hauler to use a mechanical arm mounted to the garbage truck to pick up curbside trash more efficiently than the current system, where workers have to hop out of the truck to empty each individual barrel. The automated pickup system is already used in several nearby towns, including West Springfield. DeMaio estimates that with a \$96,000 state grant the town won earlier this year, the town will save about \$199,000 during the first year, and about \$103,000 per year after that. The savings will come from reduced trash disposal.

"These are only estimates so far," she said. "But this new program will save the town money from the current system."

DeMaio has been working with the town administration for several years to implement a new waste program aimed at reducing the amount of non-recyclable waste the town produces.

Currently, the town provides trash removal curbside for all residents of single-family homes. Residents can put barrels out along with recycling that is separated in different categories like glass, plastic, and paper. There is no limit for the number of barrels that can be placed at the end of the driveway.

With the new program, each single-family residence would issued a 96-gallon recycling toter and a 65-gallon trash toter. The

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FRIEND OF EDUCATION AWARD

'Tireless' volunteer awarded for work, leadership in PTOs

> By Mike Lydick aan@turley.com

he has a big heart, the energy of a 3-year-old after visiting a candy store, and the ability to organize anything and everything at the drop of a hat.

That's how Agawam Junior High School Principal Norm Robbins describes Carrie Marino, the vice president of the school's PTO. In addition to raising four children ranging in age from 6 to 14, Marino has dedicated the past eight years to making Agawam schools a better place for students and staff.

Marino, who has been a board member on several PTOs, has run fundraisers for student field trips, written Cultural Council grants to bring in guest speakers for students, supported anti-bullying and positive choice assemblies, and created fun, family-oriented activities.

"I truly enjoy being involved," said Marino, whose daughter and oldest son are junior high school students. Her two younger sons attend Granger School.

Sue Federico, principal at Doering School, where Marino pre-

Carrie Marino, center, speaks with teacher Erin King, right, and PTO President Kristie Luke during a recent Agawam Junior High School event. Marino, the PTO's vice president, was honored recently with a Friend of Education Award from the Agawam Education Association. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

MARINO **I** page 11

Twins the season



Twin sisters Marie and Angelina Wells, both 6, smile for their mom while they sit on Santa Claus' lap at the Christmas bazaar held last Saturday at St. John's Church. More photos, page 10. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

PUBLIC HEARING

Paving petition wants car tax spent on roads

City Council pushes public hearing back to Dec. 14 meeting

By Michael J. Ballway

mballway@turley.com

William Clark is taking his message from the streets to the City Council next month.

His message is the streets. Specifically, his opinion that Agawam has been grossly underfunding its road repair budget for years.

He's not alone in this belief. Earlier this fall, he put together a petition asking for more roadwork funding. By meeting a 50-signature threshold, he forced the council to put his petition on its agenda. Originally scheduled for Dec. 5, the public hearing has been pushed back to 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19, in the Doering School auditorium at 68 Main St., Agawam.

"Most of the people that signed the petition said they have called Town Hall and the DPW to get their roads paved and have failed repeatedly," Clark said.

Clark said the problem is that Agawam spends on roadwork only 4 percent of the funds it receives from the motor vehicle excise tax — the annual tax paid to the town on all cars garaged in town. According to town Treasurer-Collector Laurel Placzek, Agawam receives about \$3 million per year in vehicle excise tax revenue. By state law, that money goes directly to the town's general fund, where it can be designated for any department of government in the annual budget.

Public Works Superintendent Christopher Golba said his department is allocated \$150,000 annually in the town budget for road repairs, plus \$40,000 for sidewalks and \$30,000 for traffic

PAVING **I** page 6



Letter: HAP still 'several years away'

HAPHousing plans to demolish the farmhouse and other structures it owns at 586 Mill St., Feeding Hills, but told Mayor Richard Cohen in a letter this month that "any new construction at the site remains several years away."

In the letter dated Nov. 8, Carolyn Shiel of HAP said the demolition would take place within a matter of weeks. She said HAP, a Springfield-based nonprofit agency that develops low-income housing projects and runs housing assistance programs, "has made it a priority to remove the existing vacant buildings," in keeping with the town's effort to clear blighted properties.

The 12.5-acre former farm on Mill Street was listed by town government as one of 22 eyesore properties in Agawam in June 2015, and remains on the blight list today. HAP purchased the land this year, announcing in July that the agency planned to build a housing project there. Neighbors have organized an opposition to HAP's plans, which they characterize as including up to 70 units of low-income housing in multi-family buildings, using Chapter 40B of state law to skirt Agawam's zoning bylaws. HAP officials have said that they have not yet decided what to build on Mill Street. - Michael J. Ballway



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Agawam Advertiser

HAPHousing will raze the land it purchased this year on Mill Street. FILE PHOTO

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'Be Kind' team to hold Nov. 27 vigil

A "Be Kind" candlelight vigil will be held Sunday, Nov. 27, at 4:30 p.m. by the pavilion at School Street Park in Agawam. The "Be Kind" team will have ornaments available for purchase. All are invited.





Trinity Health

New England

TrinityHealth-NE.org

EvvGirl Foundation EB's Restaurant will hold its "Give Back Mon-

EB's meals to benefit

day" fundraiser program Monday, Nov. 28, with proceeds to benefit EvvGirl Foundation.

Evan Bard, a nursing student from Agawam, was killed in 2014 in a drunk driving crash. The EvvGirl Foundation was established by her family to continue Bard's passions in nursing, specifically for neonatal intensive care units, pediatrics and maternity, as well as early childhood education and cheerleading. Proceeds from the event will help put webcams in the NICU at Baystate Children's Hospital in Springfield, enabling families of NICU premature babies to watch their infants throughout the day from around the world.

Ten percent of the day's sales on Nov. 28, including dine-in and take-out, will benefit the EvvGirl Foundation. Alcohol sales are excluded.

The restaurant is at 385 Walnut Street Ext., Agawam. For more information, call 413-789-3525 or visit ebsrestaurants.com.





Congregational Church news, upcoming events

The public is invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., "a place to call home — a people to call family." Worship service is at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings with a children's message, church school and fellowship and coffee hour following.

Sunday, Dec. 4: Second Sunday in Advent, the Candle of Peace, Family Communion Worship Service and coffee hour. Interactive Christmas pageant. The Mitten Tree is ready for hats, mittens, scarves and more. Please help decorate throughout the

Thursday, Dec. 8: 9:30 a.m., Playgroup meets. Open to the public. Follows the Agawam Public School schedule.

Saturday, Dec. 10: Woman's Fellowship Christmas meeting at Marian Herrick's home for potluck dinner and Yankee swap. See the flyer at church for sign-up.

Sunday, Dec. 11: Third Sunday in Advent, the Candle of Joy worship service, church school and coffee fellowship hour.

Saturday, Dec. 17: 7:30 a.m., Men's Ministry at Bobbie I'z.

Sunday, Dec 18: 8:30 a.m., Encounter Service; 10 a.m., Alice Moore Golden Bell Choir will ring before worship. Fourth Sunday in Advent, the Candle of Love worship service, Choir Cantata, Mitten Tree dedication, Christmas poinsettias in church, no church school and coffee hour. Right after church will be the Family Christmas Party with pizza and Christmas caroling. 5 p.m., Christmas caroling on the Town Green with the Agawam Clergy Association with hot chocolate and cookies. In case of inclement weather, gather at the Agawam Congregational Church hall.

Monday, Dec. 19: 4 p.m., Loaves & Fish-

Wednesday, Dec. 21: 9 a.m., Newsletter collation.

Saturday, Dec. 24: Special Christmas Eve services. All are invited. 5 p.m., Family Candlelight Service; 11 p.m., Traditional Candlelight Service

Sunday, Dec. 25: 10 a.m., Christmas Day Sunday worship service. No church school or coffee hour.

Monday Dec. 26: Church office closed.. Pastor Greg E. Dawson is available for prayer after the service. The church offers many programs, special family activities, trips, picnics and more. Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 413-786-7111, visit www. agawamcongregationalchurch.com email office@agawamcong.com. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until noon.

Volunteers still needed for Red Kettle drive

Holiday shoppers in the greater Springfield region will now hear ringing bells and see familiar red kettles as the Salvation Army of Greater Springfield rang in its 2016 Red Kettle Drive Saturday, Nov. 19. The drive helps the Greater Springfield Salvation Army fulfill its yearlong mission of serving thousands of local families in need. With the down economy, those families, and that need, become greater every year.

Those interested in making donations to the campaign will be able to do so at local businesses throughout the region this holiday season. Red kettles and bell ringers will be stationed at Stop & Shop in Feeding Hills and Geissler's Supermarket in Aga-

The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign has been the organization's signature fundraising initiative for more than 100 years. The 2015 campaign provided more than 5,000 families with assistance during the holiday season. With a goal of raising \$100,000 during this campaign, the nonprofit organization, which serves all of Hampden County, is reaching out to the public to ask for their support.

"The funds raised through the Red Kettle campaigns allow us to fill in gaps in grant funding to provide social service programs year-round for our local community," said Major David Moore of the Greater Springfield Salvation Army. "Without our volunteers and the generosity of the public, none of the Salvation Army programs would exist."

For those who would like to donate directly, monetary donations can be made



David Delancey of Agawam rings a bell for the Salvation Army during last year's holiday season. FILE

in the form of a check made out to the Salvation Army, P.O. Box 971, Springfield, MA 01105. Please indicate that the donation is for the Kettle Fund. If you are interested in making a donation online, visit redkettlereason.com. Those interested in volunteering

are urged to call the Salvation Army at 413-

For more information about The Salvation Army of Greater Springfield, visit springfield.salvationarmy.org.

Agawam Garden Club to decorate at Yuletide at Storrowton Village

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The Agawam Garden Club will donate its time, talent and materials to decorate Storrowton Village Museum's Potter Mansion Kitchen for Yuletide at Storrowton.

The free winter holiday tradition will be open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 3-4, at Storrowton Village on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield.

The Master Gardeners of Storrowton will oversee the entire decorating project alongside Yuletide coordinator Thelma Greene of Chicopee, who will manage all event decorating. The historical village will be completely adorned in natural decorations of the season. Visitors are invited to bring notepads and take photos to record these magnificent holiday ideas to recreate the arrangements for their own holiday décor.

Other clubs and florists participating include Pat Byrne, Flowers by Webster, Merry Mites, Rose Petal and Thorn, Springfield Garden Club, West Springfield Garden Club, the Garden Club of the Westfield Woman's Club and Wilbraham Garden Club.

Visitors can explore the Village on a self-guided tour and experience the old-fashioned holiday fun of storytelling, ice sculpting, musical performances and Early American craft demonstrations. In addition to Yuletide, these volunteer decorators' work can also be seen during Storrowton's Open House Tours, Dec. 6-10, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Lantern Light Tours, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 6-8 p.m. Admission for Open House and Lantern Light tours is \$5; children under 6, free.

Parking for all Storrowton events is free.

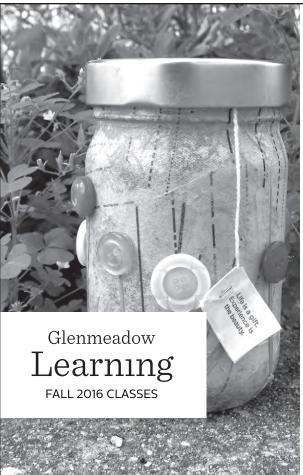


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Tuesday, November 29, 10 a.m.-noon Agawam Public Library 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA

Join us as crafter Amber Ladley discusses the benefits that creativity can bring to your life. Find potential in unexpected materials, and create a gratitude jar to hold your thoughts and memories. Select from the materials Amber will provide, or bring your own.

Programs are free and open to the public, but space is limited and reservations are required. To enroll, call 413.567.7800 or e-mail learning@glenmeadow.org. Visit glenmeadow.org/learning. Glenmeadow OUR VIEW

Wider tax split risks town's reputation

aising taxes on businesses to provide a break for homeowners may make voters happy, but L the mayor and City Council would be wise to listen to their largest taxpayers next year.

The town's tax rate split is on a dangerous trajectory toward a "soak-the-rich" policy that could damage Agawam's valuable business-friendly reputation.

Agawam, unlike most towns in Massachusetts, has long assessed different rates for different types of property. Each year, the town determines a single tax rate and then applies a "tax shift" multiplier to the business rate. Two years ago, the shift was 1.42 - meaning businesses paid 142 percent of what they would have paid under a single rate, and this "extra" revenue was used to reduce the residential tax rate. Last year, the shift jumped up to 1.52, and this year it crept up further to 1.55. When the math is done, with the commercial rate adjusted up and the residential rate adjusted down, it means that the owner of a business property now pays almost twice as much per year as the owner of an equivalent-value residential property. Businesses now pay a rate of \$31.12 per \$1,000assessed value; for homeowners it's just \$16.31.

One councilor made the argument that commercial and industrial tax increases are less onerous because some homeowners have fixed incomes, but a business can always pass increased costs along to the consumer. There comes a point when that stops being true — because the customers stop buying.

If Agawam manufacturers were forced to increase the cost of their products, how many of their customers would start looking into other suppliers, perhaps in other states or other countries? No town in Massachusetts can afford to give manufacturers another

Agawam's strong manufacturing base is one of the best things the town has going for it. Even in towns with a single tax rate, businesses are highly prized taxpayers because, to put it bluntly, they don't have kids.

The single largest department in town government is the schools, and just about any taxpayer who uses school services is, financially speaking, a net loss for the town. A family in a \$300,000 home may pay a hefty tax bill, but it's not enough to cover the cost of educating two kids in the schools as well as the rest of the city services that all Agawam residents enjoy. The town's children are subsidized by the childless households in town and, even more so, by the businesses.

That's not to suggest that parents should pay more. Education is properly assessed as the concern and responsibility of the entire community, including the business community. But those of us who benefit from "specialized" town services — and that includes, to a lesser extent, folks who patronize the Senior Center, the parks and the library — should recognize that the town can afford these services in part because of the taxes collected from large entities that pay a steep rate and don't use them.

Being fair to businesses may mean slightly higher taxes for residents. But being steadily more unfair to businesses, in the long run, will mean businesses $moving \, out \, - \, and \, much \, higher \, taxes \, for \, the \, residents$

What do you think? Share your thoughts in a letter to

Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

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Our office is open Monday through Thursday mornings, and other weekday times by ap-

THANKSGIVING



FAITH MATTERS

In everything give thanks

Pastor Tim Reed

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV)

aul the Apostle wrote this short letter to the Christian church in the town of Thessalonica in Greece during the first century while he was imprisoned in Rome and Christians were being martyred. Just being a Christian at that time could cost you and your family not only all of your material wealth, but your life, as well. Yet the Holy Spirit urged Paul to write these words and infuse the believers with courage to have an outlook on

life that shattered the status quo, and recognize God was in control of all things. When things are going good in our life,

it is easy to be thankful and wear a smile. When we are facing struggles and chaos outside of our control, it is a bit more difficult to maintain a heart of gratitude. How can I thank God for the bad stuff that happens to me, my family, or friends? It does not say to "thank God" for the bad stuff. The will of God for you is to be thankful in the good times and the bad times. Remember what Jesus said, the rain falls on the just and the unjust, the sun shines on the just and unjust. We all experience good times and bad times - no exceptions to the rule. It does not matter how much money you have, what religious affiliation you claim, or your ancestral background. What matters is how you handle life when it is flowing smoothly and when you hit a rough patch.

So the big question is how to be thankful in everything. Let me give you a few ideas to keep a spirit of gratitude flowing through your life.

1. Thank God every morning for the great gift of life you have been given. You are here because God himself carefully hand-crafted you in your mother's womb. You have a divine purpose.

2. Thank God for bringing you through the struggles and joys of life thus far. You may think you have had more than enough of your share of struggles, but if you are still breathing, rest assured there is a future

that God has prepared for you that far outweighs the light and momentary troubles we face in this world.

3. Thank God for family and friends who surround you. It may be a large group or only one person, but I encourage you to look into their eyes and let them know how grateful you are for their presence in your

4. I have traveled overseas and I am amazed at how much we have here in America that we take for granted. You and I are blessed tremendously. Thank God for the many things you have that keep you safe, warm and well fed.

As we enter the holidays, fill your heart with faith and be thankful!

Tim Reed is the executive pastor at Bethany Assembly of God on Main Street in Aga-

Letter to the Editor

Leonard House event's success due to help from many

The Board of Trustees at the Captain Charles Leonard House would like to extend their sincere appreciation to the many participants of the October Wine and Beer Tasting sponsored by McCarthy Liquors of Agawam. Store owners John and Manet McCarthy have again donated all proceeds to the Leonard House to be used for the maintenance and preservation of the historic former stage coach tavern. In addition to the money raised from party and meeting rentals, the Leonard House relies on the funds generated by annual tastings and barbeques to meet the expenses incurred maintaining and preserving the 211-year-

old building.

The event's success was due to the help of many hands. A special thank you to Jen and staff at the First Stop Café, Todd Servis, owner of Ham Hill Tents, the McCarthy Liquor employees and many vendors, Mike at Crystal Ice, Sarat Ford, and Josh Kimball, Leonard House event planner. Hope to see you all at next year's event.

> Trustees of the **Captain Charles Leonard House**

MORE LETTERS **■** page 5









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\$35 per year pre-paid (\$40 out of state) Newsstand \$1.00

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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AGAWAM

The Agawam Advertiser News (USPS 001-170) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

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Letter to the Editor

Recognize effort, benefits of stopping smoking this season

This Thanksgiving season, I'd like to remind readers to thank a co-worker, friend or family member who has quit smoking. Many smokers say quitting is the hardest thing they have ever done. Most smokers have to try a few times before they quit for good, and any amount of recognition can help someone stay quit.

Smoking is the number one cause of preventable death and disease in Massachusetts. Nicotine is a very addictive drug and, on average, it takes a smoker several tries to quit for good. So reach out to smokers or ex-smokers. Let them know you are proud of how hard they're working to better their wellbeing. Thank them for improving their health and the health of the people around them.

If you're a smoker, even though the holidays can be a tough time to quit, they are a great time to get support from your loved ones to help you try to quit. If you have tried in the past, don't give up. Instead, take advantage of the many resources available in Massachusetts to help you reach your goal.

Smokers can call the Helpline at 800-QUIT-NOW (800-784-8669) to talk with a free quit coach. The Helpline now offers expanded hours and is open for calls from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. seven days a week (excluding holidays). By talking with a quit coach at 800-QUIT-NOW, smokers can also receive a four-week supply of free nicotine patches.

Health insurance may cover the cost of medicines and coaching to help smokers quit - MassHealth does. With Mass-Health and many other insurance companies, FDA-approved quit smoking medications are available with little or no copay.

Smokers who get support and use stop-smoking medicines are nearly three times as likely to quit for good as those who try to quit on their own. Quitting is hard — give thanks to a smoker in your life for quitting or for attempting to quit. Every email, text message, phone call, or encouraging word makes a difference.

Sara B. Moriarty

Program Director, Hampden County Tobacco Free Community Partnership/Gandara Center

West Springfield

The writer is a former Agawam resident.

JAY SPEAKS

Kudos to the VA

uch has been written about Jay, you are legally blind, and here is the failings of the VA in treating veterans. From D.C. to

Phoenix and from the South to the North, there has been reports of mistreatment of veterans in long waits for apppointments and poor follow-though in their care.

If the VA needs someone to speak up in a positive manner, they just have to call on me. Although Kittv and I have a good

health plan, I thought it wise to still see the veterans health system once a year for a physical and stay in touch if I needed them one day.

Last year I saw Dr. Proctor and mentioned that I was having trouble with my right eye. She knew that I had lost sight in my left eye and when I said right eye, she immediately told me that she would call the VA people in the Leeds hospital and see what they could do for me.

A week later I received a call from their low vision department and made an appointment to see them. I have never had such a thorough workup on my eyes. I was there flor almost three hours ... being examined by a cadre of extremely talented physicians and surgeons. I was given a complete battery of tests on my eyes. When it was over, the lead doctor announced,"

how we are going to assist you." Over the next hour, I was shown,

and allowed to try, many pieces of equipment ranging from readers that made it easier to read newspapers and magazines, to large-numeral phones, to varying eyeglasses for differing tasks, and inasmuch as I was a writer, help for my computer and printer.

My guide on all this help is Chris, and he is setting up someone to help with the computer and makes certain that I can use the items that the VA has

provided. The VA has also enlisted the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind to give me additional help with day-to-day activities.

Back to Dr. Proctor. She makes certin that all my flu and pneumonia shots are up to date, and that I get my blood analyzed each time that I visit and that my presecription drugs are up to date.

Each of our presidential candidates proclaimed all that they want to do for veterans. All I can hope for is that the president will do for all vets what the VA has done and is continuing to do for me.

Jay Berger is retired from a job in publishing and lives in Agawam with his wife Kitty. They have three children and six grandchildren.

DEATH NOTICES

Adamski, Norbert S.

Died Nov. 19 Funeral Nov. 23 Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home

Gregory, Kenneth D.

Died Nov. 16 Funeral Nov. 21 Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home Agawam

Magovern, John

Died Nov. 17 Funeral Nov. 21 Agawam Funeral Home

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary **POLICY**

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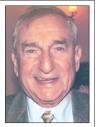
One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



Jay Berger

GUEST COMMENTARY

AHS bands celebrate 10 years with director

By Antonia Moore

his year, Agawam High School band members are recognizing their director for 10 years with the program. William Hueglin, director of wind ensemble, symphony band, percussion ensemble, and the marching band, has made a tremendous impact on the program since his arrival in the summer of 2007.

Mr. Hueglin's passion for music started in elementary school with his learning piano and recorder. In sixth grade he moved to play clarinet, then to saxophone the following year. He began private saxophone lessons and participated in the Youth Wind Ensemble at Cave Spring United Methodist Church and in the Youth and Chancel Handbell Choirs. Mr. Hueglin's parents had commented, "We have very fond memories of watching him as a 10th-grader conducting in front of his bedroom mirror using a dowel from the basement workshop as a baton."

At Cave Spring High School, he participated in marching band, symphonic band and jazz band, sitting first chair for both junior and senior year. Most afternoons, he hung out in the band room until his director Mr. Tucker kicked him out. That was when Mr. Hueglin discovered his knack for flag twirling. His friends took note of this and gave him his very own flag for his 17th birthday, which, according to his parents, "He twirled in our front yard, much to his sister's embarrassment."

After high school graduation, Mr. Hueglin entered James Madison University as a psychology major and became a Marching Royal Duke. Midway through his freshman year, he realized marching band was not enough music to fill his heart, so he auditioned into the saxophone studio and changed his major. He studied saxophone under David Pope for four years and graduated in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in music education.

On Mr. Pope's recommendation, Mr. Hueglin pursued the saxophone program at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He studied under Lynn Klock for two years and worked as a graduate assistant for the lively arts. While at UMass, he played soprano sax for their sax quartet and organized several tours.

Exemplary leadership

After graduating in 2007 with his master's degree in saxophone performance, Mr. Hueglin wanted to find a teaching position in the Northeast. He had several interviews in Massachusetts and was offered the position of AHS director of



William Hueglin directs the AHS and alumni band at this year's Band-Athon concert at School Street Park. FILE

bands, merely a few days prior to the beginning of band camp. During his first week of employment, he drove two-plus hours from Connecticut every morning and back again that night.

Now, Mr. Hueglin has shaped the band program musically and academically by modeling exemplary leadership. In a matter of a few years, his ensembles started receiving gold and silver medals for their performances in the Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association (MICCA) festivals. The marching band is an inclusive program that encourages all members to join. Mr. Hueglin's command of the program has been recognized by the director of the UMass-Amherst marching band, Dr. Timothy Todd Anderson, who has invited Mr. Hueglin to speak at the UMass marching technique classes on more than one occasion.

Hueglin's ensembles reflect the qualities he exemplifies: attention to detail, respect and kindness. His respect for tradition honors the Agawam band's past, while keeping an eye to-

Many alumni eagerly return to enjoy the band's performances, because of the sense of family that connects them still. The staff of the program are all Agawam Band alumni. Tammy Watson, a former director of the program, serves as one of Mr. Hueglin's most appreciated mentors. She commented, "Bill Hueglin is an incredible talent. He is a great musician and wonderful leader. The band sounds amazing. I am looking forward to the next 10 years."

Darcy Davis, director of the program from

1955 to 1990, is still honored, remembered and welcomed to performances by the band and the community. The band joined in celebrating the dedication of the concert shell in School Street Park to his name. Attuned to Davis' legacy, Mr. Hueglin is forging a lasting one of his own — restudents.

In the Agawam band program, students emulate their director's passion, diligence and dedication. The band's leadership training program promotes energy, enthusiasm and integrity. Being in the band provides many opportunities for students to put their initiative into practice, and the program has shaped countless exceptional student leaders.

Former drum major and alum Sammi Swistak said, "He makes you want to do better. Mr. Hueglin works so hard to make this band what it is. He always reminds us that he can show up and do his part but, that it's really up to us to make it great. With his support and enthusiasm he creates a positive environment for the band to succeed. You honestly can't help but to do your best, day in and day out."

In 2013, Mr. Hueglin was recognized by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation with a Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award.

Musicians inspired

Agawam musicians are also inspired to continue with music, according to alum Rachel Jurkowski: "Mr. Hueglin has been a huge inspiration

BAND I page 6

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Working at one of the two food drives held recently by Work Opportunity Center are, from left, Ovidio Collazo, Alicia Picot, Keturah Evans, Shawn Anderson and Keri Crawford. SUBMITTED PHOTO

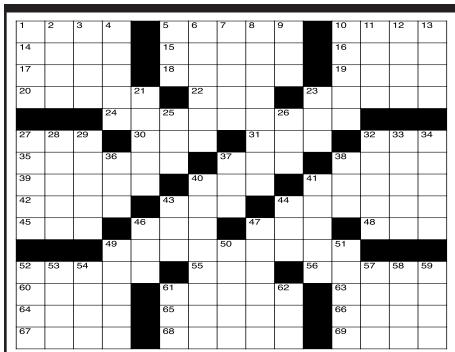
Food drives benefit Work Opportunity Center

Work Opportunity Center Inc. recently held two food drives at Agawam supermarkets to collect items for the Springfield Open Pantry.

WOC reported that \$340.83 was raised and more than 850 non-perishable items were brought to the Open Pantry. According to the WOC, many families will benefit this holiday season from these donations.

WOC is a nonprofit agency located on Suffield Street in Agawam, with two programs that serve adults with developmental disabilities. For more than 25 years, it has employed program participants and assisted them to find employment with local businesses.

In 2014, WOC expanded programming to include community-based day services. This program is designed to enable individuals to enrich their life and enjoy a full range of community activities by providing opportunities in social and community activities. Since its inception, the CBDS program has been building relationships in the community and becoming full participants in what the Springfield area has to offer to its residents and visitors. It was the CBDS program that organized and carried out the food drive to benefit the Open Pantry.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Sensitivity
- 5. Greek island
- 10. Up to the time of
- 14. Wife
- 15. Composer Ned
- 16. Edging to street path (Brit.)
- 17. Lose energy 18. Biblical parable
- 19. Celery (Spanish)
- 20. Arm bones
- 22. Japanese family emblem
- 23. Customary practice
- 24. Acceptance
- 27. Very fast aircraft
- (abbr.)
- 30. Cool
- 31. Indian state
- 32. Young boy or girl
- 35. Astronomy unit
- 37. Confederate soldier
- 38. Famed German
- composer 39. Alternate name

- 40. Used to pave driveways
- 41. Artery 42. Type of powder
- 43. Inquire too closely
- 44. Northern Ireland 45. Connects two points at right angles
- 46. Hot drink
- 47. A newt
- 48. Engine additive
- 49. Wealthy Connecticut town
- 52. Not invited or
- requested
- 55. Embrace
- 56. Spiritual leader
- 60. Wild or sweet cherry
- 61. __ Day, actress
- 63. Daughter of Ion
- 64. Recline
- 65. Type of acid
- 66. City in Utah 67. Lazily
- 68. Music term
- 69. Divulge a secret

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Very short skirt worn by ballerinas
- 2. Angle between leaf stalk and stem
- 3. Popular in Nebraska 4. Dessert
- 5. Cognitive retention therapy
- 6. Wandered 7. Mistake
- 8. Adolescent 9. Medical term
- 10. Russian tsar's edict
- 11. Type genus of the Nepidae 12. High school math class
- 13. Double-reed instrument 21. Painful places on the
- body 23. Fiddler crabs
- 25. Resinous substance 26. Person of wealth (Brit.)
- 27. Series 28. North American plant 29. Warble

- 32. Pastries
- 33. Group of eight 34. Twyla ___, dancer
- 36. Pouch
- 37. Singer Charles
- 38. Cattle genus
- 40. Eye infection 41. Where couples go to
- marry
- 43. Long bench with backs 44. Unrestricted free agent
- 46. ___ Talks 47. Causal agent
- 49. Nincompoop
- 50. Relating to the aura 51. Person of conspicuous
- wealth 52. Type of mottled fruit 53. Essential
- 54. Fertility god 57. Folk singer Ives
- 58. La __ Tar Pits, Hollywood
- 59. Foot
- 61. Digital audiotape
- 62. Drunk

New members welcome at Crochet Club

The Agawam Crochet Club meets the first and third Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Agawam United Methodist Church, 459 Mill St., Feeding Hills. The club is open to all and is free of charge.

It is open to beginners that need to learn the basics or intermediate crocheters looking to learn some new stitches or projects. The goal of the club is to learn one new stitch each time they meet. Club members also do charity projects, such as making chemo-caps for cancer patients or mittens and scarves for children in need. Participants that do not understand written patterns or how to read charted patterns will learn at the meetings.

For more information, call Mark Mickey at 413-786-7991 or 860-837-4344.

Grants available for Valley nonprofits with new ideas

SPRINGFIELD — The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts is inviting nonprofit organizations across the Pioneer Valley to be bold, creative, and catalyze change with its first Innovation Grant

competition this fall. 'We believe the Innovation planning grants will provide an opportunity for successful grantees to identify key data, test ideas and gather input on issues that are difficult to solve," said CFWM President Katie Allan Zobel.

This first round of funding will be planning grants to provide "early stage" funding to nonprofits for emerging ideas, initiatives or new collaborations that can substantially impact or provide measurable progress toward solving a significant challenge in the three-county Pioneer Valley region.

A complete eligibility criteria list and detailed information for applicants is available at communityfoundation.org.

PAVING ■ from page 1

lights. The bulk of the town's road repair budget comes from Chapter 90 of the state budget, which makes annual payments to each local DPW in Massachusetts. In recent years, the Chapter 90 payment to Agawam has been between \$813,000 and \$821,000, with the exception of fiscal 2015, when it

was \$1.22 million. Not all the money is spent directly on the streets. Golba said Chapter 90 money can also be used to purchase equipment, such as a truck or backhoe, that would be

used for roadwork. Golba said he hasn't read the petition and couldn't comment on its merits, but there's "no question about it" that Agawam has more street repair needs than he can meet with his current available funds of approximately \$1 million a year.

Clark's petition asks that the town spend 35 percent of motor vehicle excise revenues — a figure that would have come to just over \$1 million in the current fiscal year — on roadwork, in addition to the Chapter 90 funds.

He said the current funding level has been unsustainable for years, pointing to a 2009 report from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission that estimated that Agawam would need to increase its annual paving budget to \$2.5 million by 2013 to keep up with the deterioration of town roads. That estimate was based on PVPC's analysis of road conditions as they existed at the time, and predictions on when roads would need to be rebuilt.

Golba said the 2009 pavement plan is out of date, and the town currently reassesses its main roads before each construc-

"Depending on the winter, the street with the most potholes gets the nod, so to speak," Golba said. Because of the limited budget, he added, "at this point we're focusing on the main streets, with some side

street work, but mostly on the mains." He said the town is working on a new pavement plan to replace the decade-old

document. Clark, a Feeding Hills resident who owns a yoga studio on Walnut Street Extension, ran an unsuccessful write-in campaign for mayor in 2015. His platform centered on a similar theme, the need for more sidewalk construction and maintenance funding in Agawam.

BAND ■ from page 5 to me. Not only has he been a great band director who gives all he has to his students, but he helped get me to where I am today as a music education major. From listening to me playing and giving me advice, he helped me immensely with my college decision. He teaches important life lessons and pushes all students to be better musicians and people. I cannot thank him enough for all that he has done. Agawam band has left an imprint on so many people. It's one that stays with all of us throughout our lives. Mr. Hueglin has done a wonderful job of upholding Agawam's standards and even

going above and beyond them." Though he is responsible for an award-winning program, Mr. Hueglin makes it clear to the musicians that medals and awards are not how he measures excellence. He implores his students to reach their full potential, and to be kind, responsible people. To remind students of that, Hueglin asked his mother to sew a "Be Kind" sign that he could hang up in

the band room, to which she graciously obliged. A "Be Kind" lecture from his own high school director had made an impression on Mr. Hueglin, and he wanted to make sure that that legacy was honored and carried by his own students.

Senior Ethan Rivera adds, "Mr. Hueglin is the type of teacher everyone wants. He'll listen to you when you need someone to listen, and he's always there to help when you need it. He knows how to have fun while doing his job. Mr. Hueglin is the type of teacher anyone who wants to teach aspires to be. I do not think I would follow a path of music if it were not for him being my teacher. Band class is not just a music

class, it is also a life class." The Agawam Band program is very fortunate to have had Mr. Hueglin for the past 10 years. He is certainly advancing a legacy that will leave a lasting impact for decades

Antonia Moore is the assistant band director at the Agawam High School.





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Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 690 calls for service from Nov. 7 to Nov. 21. The department recorded 11 arrests in its public log.

Tuesday, Nov. 8

Michael T. Wellspeak, 52, of Berkshire Avenue, Southwick, was arrested on charges of possession of a Class A drug, operating motor vehicle with license revoked as a habitual traffic offender, and possession of a Class B drug, subsequent offense.

Amy Lynn Benjamin, 45, of Berkshire Avenue, Southwick, was arrested on a charge of possession of a Class C drug.

Wednesday, Nov. 9

Ryan Longtin, 35, of Ridgeway Drive, Agawam, was arrested for operating under the influence of liquor, two counts of leaving the scene of property damage, possession of open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle, and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

Salimon Gonzalez, 26, of Alexandra Street, Springfield, was arrested on a charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Friday, Nov. 11

Rielly John Longtin, 30, of Ridgeway Drive, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Sunday, Nov. 13

Eugene Steward, 40, of Congamond Road, Southwick, was arrested on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Monday, Nov. 14

James Charles Crowley, 36, of Maple Street, Agawam, was arrested on a warrant, and charges of operating a motor vehicle with license suspended, unregistered motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, and attaching plates to a motor vehicle.

John F. Woytowicz, 41, of Maple Street, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Tuesday, Nov. 15

Ricky Carter, 54, of Chestnut Street, Springfield, was arrested on a charge of possession of a Class B drug

Michael James O'Connell, 28, of Wilson Street, Agawam, was arrested on a charge of shoplifting by asportation.

Thursday, Nov. 17

Carrie Kirk, 44, of St. James Ave., Westfield, was arrested on charges on operating under the influence of liquor, third offense, operating a motor vehicle with license suspended for operating under the influence, and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

FIRE LOG

Fire logs were not received in time for the Agawam Advertiser News

Agawam actor in holiday benefit play

SUFFIELD - Mark Proulx of Agawam will be part of an ensemble of 16 talented local thespians in a hilarious holiday spoof based on Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" and "Oliver Twist" next weekend.

The production, "A Christmas Twist," will be performed at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2-3, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Mapleton Hall on Mapleton Avenue in Suffield, Conn. The play is recommend-



Mark Proulx

ed for ages 13 and up. The show is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc.

It is the Suffield Players' 2016 Holiday Benefit Challenge production, performed with scripts in hand as a staged reading with a minimum of rehearsals. All proceeds from the production go toward the upkeep and maintenance of the troupe's theater building, Mapleton Hall.

Tickets are general admission only, a \$10 suggested donation at the door.

For more information about "A Christmas Twist," contact thesuffieldplayers@gmail.com, or visit www.suffieldplayers.org.



All welcome at community seminar Dec. 3 on opioid addiction

SOUTHWICK — Residents of all towns are invited to an Opioid Awareness Seminar to be held next Saturday.

Living Hope Church and the town of Southwick are sponsoring the seminar, 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 3, at Southwick Town Hall, 454 College Highway.

Topics to be covered at the seminar are: What are the signs of opiod addiction? How do I help my friend or loved one who is addicted? What programs and resources are available to help? What is Narcan and how is it used? Stories of addiction and recovery will also be shared.

There is no restriction on what ages can attend the meeting, but parents are asked to use discretion as the Police Department will be talking about stories of addiction.

The seminar is the brainchild of the Rev. Dan Valeri, pastor at Living Hope Church in Southwick.

"My hope is that by raising awareness in the community that people can get the help they need for their loved ones," he explained. "The seminar came about after I went to a Westfield Drug Awareness Task Force meeting a few months ago. All the clergy in the area were invited to attend. I had not heard much about the opioid epidemic and what I learned in that meeting truly broke my heart. I was immediately motivated to do something about it."

Valeri said he met with the Rev. Nick Toroni of Central Baptist Church in Westfield, who had 11 years of experience as a drug treatment counselor. The two pastors agreed that it made sense to host a seminar in the first week of December, because so many addiction-related suicides and overdoses take place during the holiday season.

After having the initial conversation about the seminar, the two pastors got in touch with Robin Solek of the selectmen's office in Southwick to help secure a room at the Town Hall and met with the town's police and fire chiefs, who agreed to cosponsor the seminar.

'My hope is that by raising awareness in the community, people can get the help they need for their loved ones," said Valeri.



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Hatch chance



The PTO at James Clark School is raffling a Hatchimal — this year's "must-have" Christmas toy, sold out at most stores. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased from any Clark PTO member before Dec. 12; for more information, call PTO Treasurer Shavone Gauthier Gauthier at 413-374-0624.

'Melody Boys' seeking new members

"The Melody Boys" a local a cappella singing group, is looking for men who enjoy singing to join them. The group entertains in the afternoons at nursing homes, assisted living facilities and senior centers. For more information, call Bill at 413-786-5224.

Church bake sale orders taken through Dec. 7

SPRINGFIELD — Saint Peter and Saint Paul Russian Orthodox Church, 118 Carew St., Springfield, will hold a bake sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17. Items for sale will include Christmas cookies, baked items, perogies and stuffed cabbage. Orders will be taken until Dec. 7. To place an order, call 413-786-7693.

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Show off the newest member of your family!

On Thursday, December 22nd The Agawam Advertiser News will dedicate a special section to all babies born in 2016.

Baby's Name:
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Parents' Names:
Parents' Town of Residence:
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Telephone #: (not to be printed - for office use only)
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24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069, Attn: Beth Baker nclude a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish the photo to be returned. (Cash is accepted at the office, please <u>DO NOT</u> mail cash.)

Deadline for photos & forms is Tuesday, Dec. 6th



Youth

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, Nov. 28: Chicken nuggets with dipping sauce, seasoned vegetables, Tater Tots, fresh and chilled fruit

Tuesday, Nov. 29: French toast and cheese omelet, hash brown, pork sausage link, fresh and

Wednesday, Nov. 30: Chicken filet wrap with assorted sauce served with lettuce, tomato and cheese, side of pasta salad, fresh and chilled

Thursday, Nov. Dec. 1: Half day. No lunch.

Friday, Dec. 2: Chicken alfredo over pasta, seasoned carrots, garlic cheesy bread, fresh and chilled fruit.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, Nov. 28: Popcorn chicken with dipping sauce, whole-grain dinner roll, green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Nov. 29: Pancakes with syrup, homefries, sausage patty, assorted fresh fruit, strawberry

Wednesday, Nov. 30: Junior High and Doering -

loaded nachos with ground turkey, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit. Elementary - Hot dog on whole-grain bun, low-fat potato chips,

Boston baked beans, fresh and chilled fruit. Thursday, Dec. 1: Half day. No lunch.

Friday, Dec. 2: French bread pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL **BREAKFAST MENU**

Monday, Nov. 28: Assorted low-sugar cereal, stuffed bagel sticks, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk

Tuesday, Nov. 29: Assorted low-sugar cereal, assorted nutrigrain bars, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk,

Wednesday, Nov. 30: Assorted low-sugar cereal, warm cinnamon roll, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk

Thursday, Dec. 1: Assorted low-sugar cereal, assorted nutrigrain bar, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk.

Friday, Dec. 2: Assorted pancakes with syrup, string cheese, fresh fruit, juice or milk.

Kids invited to 'Wake Up Santa' at Red Door

Tiny Tales Theatre will present a new audience participatory play for children age 3 through 7 at the Red Door Theatre Saturday, Nov. 26, at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Children are chosen from the audience to participate with the veteran actors on stage as they present "Wake Up Santa," written by father-and-daughter team Jaime and Lyle Pearsons of Agawam.

It seems that everything is amiss at Santa's workshop when Santa's alarm clock disappears and no one can wake him up in time for him to make his rounds. Children

dress as elves, reindeer, dolls and gingerbread people in a desperate attempt to get Santa on his feet. There is only one thing that will wake him up.

The popular children's theater is at 152 S. Westfield St. in Feeding Hills. Tickets are \$6 and include a photo opportunity with Santa and the other characters for those that bring a camera.

For reservations, call the box office at 413-789-2026. For more information, visit www.reddoortheatre.com.

AHS COUNSELING BULLETIN

Visiting college representatives

Students interested in meeting with any of the college or university representatives that will be visiting Agawam High School must sign up at least one day in advance in the Counseling Center.

Open houses

Many colleges are hosting events in the next few weeks. Check the Counseling Center for more informa-

Special interest programs

The American Student Assistance College Planning Centers offer free assistance with completing financial aid applications, both in-person, at Centers and over the phone (877-33-.4348). Additionally, the Boston College Planning Center is holding FAFSA Workshops every Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. and Federal Student Aid ID Workshops every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. More information is available by calling Kristi Pierce at 617-728-4608

New England Institute of Technology will be hosting a series of Career Education Days to help students learn more about their potential careers — Construction Day, Nov. 18; Engineering and Communications Day, March 3; Health Day, April 7. To register for any of these events go to NEIT.edu/CareerEducation.

Westfield State University is offering early college access to high school students. Eligible students must have a "B" average or better in their high school classes in order to be eligible. Students wishing to pursue dual enrollment must meet all eligibility criteria which can be found at mass.edu/strategic/read_cdep.asp. The deadline for Spring 2017 is Dec. 9. The reduced tuition for a three-credit course is \$636 and a four-credit course is \$848.

Springfield Technical Community College and Holyoke Community College are again offering the chance for current juniors and seniors to take up to one free

course in each semester through the College Now program. This is a great way to earn college credits while in high school while trying courses that may be helpful in exploring a potential career interest. See your counselor

Elms College is offering the Advanced Placement Program to qualified students. Tuition is waived and students pay only a registration fee of \$20 and a technology fee of \$50. Registration for the spring 2017 semester should be submitted before Jan. 17. For more information, contact the registrar at 413-265-2314.

Are you a young entrepreneur? Graduating high school seniors who operate their own small business are eligible to receive a 2017 NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award from the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation. Visit NFIB.com/YEA for more information and to apply online between by Dec. 18.

Scholarship information

Students should see their counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application: Hendry David Thoreau Foundation; GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program; Make College Happen Challenge; 2017 Profile in Courage Essay; Elon Teaching Fellows Program; Skidmore College; Ronald McDonald House Charities US Scholarship Program; Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps; Big Y Scholarship; American College Foundation; B. Davis Scholarship; Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Business Professional Scholarship.

ivieritaid.com: Un this tree website, students can complete a profile and then access the college merit scholarships that match their profile. This organization does not sell its email lists to third parties. The site includes a comprehensive directory of merit scholarships and academic scholarships across the country.

Words of Wisdom: Have a safe and relaxing Thanks-



Talk of the town



Mayor Richard Cohen met with Cub Scout Pack 77 at the Agawam Senior Center on Thursday, Nov. 10, to answer questions relating to the town and government. Pictured, from left, are Geoff Klafeta, den chief; David Paye, den leader; Cohen; Chase Daunais and Jacob Wood, second year Webelos Scouts; and Mason Rusieki, first year Webelos Scout. SUBMITTED PHOTO

K of C Breakfast With Santa is Nov. 27

The Agawam Knights of Columbus Council 5585 will hold its annual Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Nov. 27. It will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. This will be a free will donation event. For more information, call Bill Tessicini at 413-789-0540.

CAMPUS NOTES

Assumption College: Ashley Lockwood, of Feeding Hills, has earned a coveted spot on the 2016-17 Assumption College field hockey team. Lockwood is competing during the Greyhounds' fall season.

Hofstra University: Dabney Rauh, of Agawam, served as a production assistant volunteer during the first presidential debate between candidates Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump at Hofstra University on Sept. 26.

Keene State College: Ashley Gage, of Agawam, was the stage manager in "Eurydice," a fantastical play that puts a contemporary twist on the Greek myth about Eurydice's quest for love, presented Nov. 16-19 by the school's Department of Theatre and Dance.

University of the South: Brooks Young, of Feeding Hills, was inducted into the Order of Gownsmen academic honor society and student government body during Founders' Day Convocation on Oct. 7.

Western New England University: Joeanna Glantz, of Agawam, was among 14 honored with the 2016 Skookum Award from the Western New England University Alumni Association. She was also named to "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." Gregory Glidden, of Feeding Hills, is the recipient of the Salvatore C. Mazzaferro Award, given annually to a nontraditional student who, as an accounting major, has the highest average in accounting at the completion of the junior year. Nancy Robinson, of Agawam, and Stephen Walsh, of Feeding Hills, received degrees at ceremonies held Oct.

Pie for the thanks



School and town officials serving Thanksgiving pie, part of an annual tradition at AJHS, included, from left, Assistant Superintendent Alison LeClair; Mayor Richard Cohen; executive assistant Rebecca Santaniello; and School Committee members Wendy Rua and Shelley Borgatti-Reed. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY



Mayor Richard Cohen and Rebecca Santaniello, who works in the mayor's office, help serve pies to students during Agawam Junior High School's Thanksgiving-themed school lunch last Thursday.



School Committee member Wendy Rua adds whipped cream to pies for Agawam Junior High School students last Thursday. The cafeteria lunch that day was also Thanksgiving-themed, with turkey and gravy, stuffing, mashed potatoes and craisins.



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Colin Draper checks out an item for sale at the Christmas bazaar held last Saturday at St. John's Church in Agawam.



Volunteer Jack Goodfella works in the kitchen washing dishes.



Michelle Affilitto talks with Charlotte Bodurtha at one of the many craft booths.



David Kelliher gives Santa his wish list.



Bazaar patrons check out handmade jewelry for sale.

MARINO ■ from page 1

viously served as a PTO president for one of the four years her children attended the school, calls Marino a "consummate volun-

Robbins said Agawam is "very lucky" to have Marino as a dedicated PTO volunteer.

"You will never see her upset, frustrated, or frazzled," he added. "Carrie always greets people in schools with a warm smile, a kind word, and gentle manner to get them involved in our students' lives."

This fall, Marino was honored by the Agawam Education Association, the teachers union for all town schools, with its prestigious Friend of Education award that honors those who "support education tirelessly."

'Above and beyond'

Mary Ellen Berselli, a speech and language pathologist at Doering, nominated Marino. She called her "the perfect candidate," adding that Marino went "above and beyond" in her efforts to assist students and staff as a PTO member.

Marino joined the PTO to help fundraising efforts at her children's schools, add enrichment programs, and offset costs of student activities and field trips so all students could benefit from a well-rounded

"Most parents are happy to help out, but very few have the time or the inclination to take on the responsibility of coordinating large scale fundraisers or events," she said.

Fundraising is an area where Marino believed she could make a difference - and where she has made a difference at various schools. She has done everything from holding cookie dough sales to helping arrange a "techo trot" to organizing a family carnival as well as assisting at bake sales and book fairs.

"I pitch in wherever I can," said Marino.

Last year, in addition to her PTO duties. she was a weekly library volunteer at Granger School for her son's kindergarten class and volunteered in the Doering school of-

Marino said PTOs in Agawam provide much support to schools, working closely with school administrators.

"The more support you have from the principal the more you're able to do."

She said it's easier to get parents involved at elementary schools than at the middle school, junior high, and high school, because many volunteers attend meetings and leaders always emerge. Volunteers decline at the upper levels, but despite this, Marino said, PTOs still can get things done.

"There's usually a core group who work together to do what we can. It all depends on the board and the time commitment that they can dedicate to the organization," she said.



Principal Norm Robbins confers with PTO Vice President Carrie Marino in the Agawam Junior High School hallway. Robbins said Agawam "is "very lucky" to have Marino. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS

She also noted that Facebook, which has significantly increased parent awareness and involvement in Agawam PTOs, has been "a great way" to share ideas and information.

Being a part of the PTO "does not require a ton of time," said Marino: "You only have to be as involved as you want to be and only commit to the free time that you have."

She spends about three hours each week on her PTO activities, doing most of her work after her children have gone to bed.

Filling a gap

Marino said it's more difficult to recruit parents for board positions.

"Parents want to help, but not hold a board position," she explained. "This is one of the reasons why I have served on so many boards. I don't mind having to tabulate sale orders, or take notes, or coordinate a one-

Although the number of parents who attend PTO meetings is small, Marino said there are a large number of parents and families involved in PTO activities. Families, she said, are "happy to help" for a day or an

Her husband and children are very supportive of her PTO activities - and proud of her award — but Marino tries to minimize the impact on her family's regular routine

"We have a family Google calendar that I manage that keeps us all organized," she

Marino also holds a part-time job at a Springfield church, allowing her to drop off and pick up her two younger boys at Granger every day. She includes PTO errands as part of her "to do list" on her days off.

"Also, I know that I can always count on my fellow PTO board members to help me out if I need it," she said. "It all gets done."

TRASH **■** from page 1

trash toter would be emptied once a week, while the recycling toter would be emptied once every two weeks.

The recycling toter would be filled with all recyclables, eliminating the need for separating recyclables.

DeMaio is hoping the increase in recycling will reduce trash consumption by town residents.

In evaluating the proposal, Council Finance Subcommittee Chairman Christopher Johnson asked what education will included for residents who will have to change their trash and recycling habits to adjust to the new system, which will likely be in place by July 2017.

DeMaio said bids submitted by trash removal companies have included education for the public in the form of mailings, potential public forums, and press releases. Johnson suggested to DeMaio that the winning bidder would possibly benefit from going into the schools. "They can teach this to the kids and the kid will go home and teach it to their parents," said Johnson. "This is going to be a bit learning curve for the residents."

DeMaio agreed there will be a learning curve, but also said this type of program will not be completely new for all residents.

"We're one of the last towns to do this," she said. "A lot of people already know about it from seeing it in other towns."

Another change for residents will be the system of collection. DeMaio said routes will change and residents will have five-day rotation for collection. The town is currently on a four-day rotation for collection.

DeMaio said the town was running under a small time crunch to move forward with the program. She said when the town received a \$96,000 state grant to help with the program, the town had to seek an extension for accepting the grant in order to work out a program and reach a contract



The DPW plans to buy trash and recycling toters, like these in West Springfield, for every single-family home in Agawam. FILE PHOTO

with a trash removal vendor.

"We need to have that contract in place by the end of December," said DeMaio. "Or we would lose the grant."

DeMaio said there is a low bidder that the town will work to enter a contract with for trash services, likely for five years, but that vendor will not be revealed until the bid is officially awarded, she said.

Toters issued by the town to residents will not cost anything, and the trash removal vendor will be responsible for the maintenance of the toters. The DPW is currently working out the details of pay-asvou-throw option for residents who need more than just the one toter.

The town will take out a five-year loan to pay the \$836,000 borrowing, which will be used to buy the toters. They expect to use the savings from trash removal to pay the

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COLLEGE

Three athletes sign letters to play in college

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – It was a proud week for Agawam High School as Athletic Director David Stratton held three individual signings for his athletes.

Hailey Lyne, Maria Moccio, and Caroline Hitchcock all signed National Letters of Intent to attend schools and play sports for those schools.

Moccio signed a letter to play with the University of Massachusetts-Lowell. She has been a hit machine for the Agawam softball team, and will easily eclipse 100 career hits when she takes the field this spring for the Brownies.

Moccio has been a part of two Western Massachusetts Division I championship teams for Agawam during the past two seasons. She has 94 hits, has scored 51 runs and driven in 55 runs during the first three years of her high school career.

Moccio started out as a freshman in the starting lineup for Agawam as a designed hitter. Following graduations, she transitioned over to the infield, spending most of her time at third base. She provided an immediate impact on Agawam's starting lineup, with 34 hits and 21 RBI in her freshman season. She was placed in the middle of the order by coach Kathy Georgina.

She sports as career batting average of .443 and has never batted below .400. She is also an excellent defender in the field.

Hitchcock is a multi-sport athlete, having excelled at volleyball, indoor track, and outdoor track. While her accomplishments with the volleyball team have been well-documented in recent weeks with the Brownies making it all the way to the Western Mass. semifinals, Hitchcock signed with Holy Cross to be part of the track and field team.

SIGN **I** page 13



Caroline Hitchcock. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Hailey Lyne



Maria Moccio

BASKETBALL

Brownies fall in Whips opener

WEST SPRINGFIELD - A group of girls, several of whom will make up the varsity girls basketball team for Agawam High School, were defeated in the opening round of the 29th Annual Whip's Sporting Goods Girls High School Tip-Off Classic. The tournament welcomes girls high school players from all over the region to participate in a preseason tournament. Agawam, a playoff team last season, drew the team that eliminated them from tournament last year, Holyoke. The Knights won the rematch last Tuesday night, 54-21, sending Agawam home from the single-elimination tournament.

Samantha Stratton drives toward the basket. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 14



FOOTBALL

Agawam lights up scoreboard against Commerce at home

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School football team picked up their second straight win in Week 10 as the Brownies enjoyed a home advantage in a 41-15 drubbing of Commerce High School.

With Central High School occupied in Week 10, a home game for Commerce was moved to Agawam, and the Brownies got to enjoy their new home turf one more time before they make the short trip to West Springfield for Thanksgiving.

Commerce scored the first touchdown of the game, and they also scored the last one. But Agawam would score six times in between and ran away with the games.

With the Red Raiders up 7-0 just a minute into the game, Agawam did not wait very long to respond to the score as Jared Durocher capped off a scoring drive with a 23-yard run to the right

side for a touchdown with 8:57 left in the first quarter.

Commerce failed to come back with another score and Francis Cipriani then scored his first touchdown of the season for Agawam as he made a 10-yard run for a score with 4:33 left. Aiden Page would make both kicks in the first quarter and the Brownies had a 14-7 lead.

In the second quarter, Matt O'Keefe and Ryan White both scored touchdowns while the defense did their job to keep Commerce away from the end zone. White, who serves the team as the backup quarterback, has found success as a receiver late in the season, and caught a 13-yard pass from Mike Basile for a score. O'Keefe would score on a 10-yard run.

In the third quarter, Chris Morassi, Agawam's top running back for the past two years, scored his first touchdown of the game with a six-yard run. Basile then got

FOOTBALL ■ page 13

Rackliffe repeats as Player of the Year

FRAMINGHAM - Senior right side Alvcia Rackliffe (Feeding Hills, Mass.) repeats as the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference (MASCAC) Volleyball Player of the Year and the Rams place four on the 2016 All-MASCAC Teams in voting conducted by the league's coaches and announced by the conference office this morning. Head coach Richard Casali has also been recognized as the 2016 Champion's Choice Volleyball Coach of the Year.

Rackliffe was a first team All-MASCAC selection, while senior middle blocker Julia Wan (South Deerfield, Mass.), junior outside hitter Sarah Leonard (Southborough, Mass.) and junior defensive specialist Vicki Anderson (Attleboro, Mass.) were named to the second team.

Rackliffe has been selected first team All-MASCAC in each of her four seasons and is capping off her career with an outstanding senior season in route to back-toback player of the year honors. Rackliffe, who has been named the MASCAC player of the week in all but one week this season. leads the league in kills per set (4.66), total kills (485), total blocks (96), solo blocks (29), block assists (67) and blocks per set (0.92).

Wan earns her third All-MASCAC honor of her career after finishing the regular season with 196 kills and 229 digs with 29 service aces. Leonard and Anderson earn their first all-conference honors. Anderson leads the Rams defense with 296 digs on the year and 40 service aces, while Leonard recorded 102 kills and 247 digs.

In his 13th season Casali guided the Rams to a 20-11 mark including a perfect 6-0 in the MASCAC as he was honored as coach of the year. The Rams captured the 2016 MASCAC Regular Season Title and have earned the top seed in this week's MASCAC Volleyball Championship Tournament.

SIGN **■** from page 12

Last spring, Hitchcock won the state championship in the high jump event with a five-foot, six-inch jump in June. She also won the high jump event in February at the all-state meet for indoor track. She won the Central/West Division I outdoor championship as well.

On top of her track accomplishments, Hitchcock was also named an all-star in volleyball this year.

Lyne, a girls lacrosse player for the past three years, is a senior and has one more season to go with the Brownies, signed her letter to play the sport at the University of New Haven. She is a defender who has become an integral part of Agawam's defense for the past three seasons.

She has played varsity lacrosse for her entire high school career. She has helped lead Agawam to the playoffs each season and has developed over time into one of the

FOOTBALL ■ from page 12

the final touchdown when he found a big opening at Agawam's 47-yard line and ran 53 yards for a touchdown.

In his final start before Thanksgiving, Basile went to the air six times, completing four passes for 87 yards. He also completed a pass for a two-point conversion.

White had two receptions for 42 yards.

The Brownies did a good job spreading the rushing around. Seven different players recorded positive yardage for the Brownies. Basile would lead the team with six carries for 88 yards and a score. Morassi had a touchdown and 81 yards. Cipriani had 48 yards on eight carries. Durocher carried four times for 42 yards.

With the win, Agawam finishes the non-playoff phase of their schedule and are 6-4 overall. Agawam beat Chicopee in the first week of non-playoff action. Agawam was involved in non-playoff games for the first time since the playoff format was re-organized.

Volleyball suffers tough loss in series



Caroline Hitchcock reaches to her left to make a hit. TURLEY PUBLICA-TIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

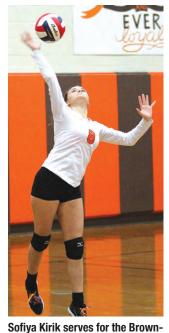
AGAWAM -Agawam High School girls volleyball team closed out their season with a tough loss in the semifinals against Minnechaug Regional High School on Nov. 10. The Brownies had an excellent season with a 13-5 record one year after missing out on the tournament. The Brownies were one of just two teams to earn a firstround bye. The Brownies defeated Pittsfield in the quarterfinals 3-1 before losing 3-1 to the



Madison Lockwood and Gabby Harrison attempt to make a block.



Abbey Viens takes to the air to make a spike.



ies in their final game of the season, a semifinal matchup against Minnechaug.

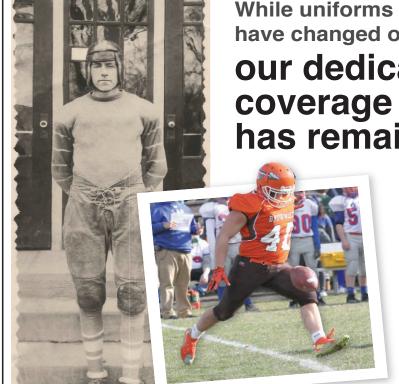


Bianca Culhane attempts to get the ball over the

WMass Volleyball All-star teams chosen

WEST SPRINGFIELD - The International Volleyball Hall of Fame (IVHF) in Holyoke, MA is proud to announce the fifth Annual Western Massachusetts Girls High School Volleyball All-Star Teams and Spalding All-Star Game presented by Whip's Sporting Goods, Pioneer Valley Juniors and All The Right Stuff Sports. 28 players were selected for 1st team honors while 28 additional players were selected for 2nd team honors. The 56 players selected represent 25 different high schools in Western Mass. All selected players were be invited to play in the Spalding All-Star Game on Monday, Nov. The event was held in the West Springfield High School Gymnasium with a threeset match for second team players and a three-set match for first team players. For the third year, the Hall of Fame would announce the Western Massachusetts Player of the Year at the conclusion of the evening. "It's important we take time to recognize the wealth of volleyball talent right here in Western Massachusetts, the sports birthplace." said IVHF Executive Director George Mulry. "It has become increasingly difficult for the committee to select such a limited number of players for 1st and 2nd team honors when there are so many deserving athletes in our area." Selected players were chosen by a committee consisting of local coaches, officials, and the media. Players from Division 2 Western Mass. champion Amherst Regional led all honors having four players named first team all-stars.

Representing Agawam on the first team are Bianca Culhane, and Caroline Hitchcock. Making the second team was Paige Hardy and Madison Lockwood.



While uniforms for high school sports have changed over the years,

our dedicated weekly coverage of local games has remained the same.

> Our Sports editors and their staff of reporters and photographers cover select varsity school games weekly as well as youth and adult sports leagues. We also accept photo submissions and write-ups from coaches and players. Email your content to Dave Forbes at dforbes@turley.com.

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Sports

Going to the hoop



Cassidy Patterson makes her way down the court.



Bianca Culhane extends to take a shot on the hoop.



Natalie Pullen tries to outmaneuver the Holyoke defense.



Liz Milliken makes a pass on the run.

COLLEGE NOTES

Czerpak helps RPI men's cross country to NCAA Championship

TROY, NY - Cameron Czerpak, of Feeding Hills, is a member of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) cross country team that has received an automatic berth for the NCAA Championship Meet after a second-place finish at regionals. The national championship was held on Saturday, Nov. 19 at E.P. Tom Sawyer State Park in Louisville, Kentucky. The men's race begins at noon.

Geneseo, the second ranked team in the nation, finished first with 51 points, followed by RPI's 87. The Engineers, who last participated in the national meet in 1996, are ninth in the latest Division III coaches poll.



SEND US YOUR SPORTS PHOTOS

Have you taken photos at a local sports event and want to see them published in this paper? Email your image(s) with description to:

dforbes@turley.com or gscibelli@turley.com

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@ turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Saturday, Nov. 26

DINNER AND CONCERT AT THE ITALIAN SPORTING CLUB, 349 Cooper St., Agawam, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. to raise funds to offset travel expenses of Bailey Cecchi, of Agawam, selected as a member of the USA Athletes International Volleyball Team, set to compete in Holland next May. \$15 per person includes concert after; \$10 for concert only. Tickets at the door or call Laurie Cecchi at 413-505-9547.

A TREE-LIGHTING CEREMONY with Mayor Brian Sullivan in conjunction with Westfield on Weekends starts at 6:30 p.m. on the Green at Park Square. The Lanternlight Parade steps off at 6:15 from 51 Franklin St., and follow Elm Street south to the Green. Following the ceremony there will be caroling, Santa Claus and hot cocoa.

Sunday, Nov. 27

AGAWAM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 5585 Breakfast With Santa from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. This will be a free will donation event. For more information, call Bill Tessicini at 413-789-0540.

A "BE KIND" CANDLELIGHT VIGIL at 4:30 p.m. by the pavilion at School Street Park in Agawam. The "Be Kind" team will have ornaments available for purchase. All are invited.

Wednesday, Nov. 30

MARIANN MILLARD WILL LEAD A "MEANDER THROUGH ITALY" at 2 p.m. at the Suffield Senior Center, 145 Bridge St. To register for this free Kent Memorial Library program, call the library at 860-668-3896 or visit suffield-library.org.

Thursday, Dec. 1

SUFFIELD NATIVE ALISON MONCRIEF BROMAGE will read from her award-winning debut collection of poems, "Daughter, Daedalus" at the Suffield Academy Library on High Street in Suffield, Conn. The reading will begin at 6 p.m. To register for this free program at the Kent Memorial Library, call 860-668-3896, or visit suffield-library. org.

Friday, Dec. 2

RHYTHM AND BLUES free concert at 7 p.m. in the

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage polices, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

A TURLEY PUBLICATION

Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. The BluesHead Band features Carl Hopkins, an Agawam resident, on guitar. Part of the Agawam Cultural Council's Applause

Saturday, Dec. 3

ANNUAL HOLLY BAZAAR at Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway from 8:30 a.m. to 3

WORCESTER COUNTY KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW today and tomorrow from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission

YULETIDE AT STORROWTON today and tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Storrowton Village Museum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

A HOLIDAY BAZAAR at Landmark at Monastery Heights, Senior Living Community, 110 Monastery Ave., West Springfield, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Locally handmade items, baked goods, local honey and more.

Sunday, Dec. 4

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council 11178 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in Father Shea Hall of Our Lady of the Lake Church, 224 Sheep Pasture Road, Southwick,

BREAKFAST AND PHOTOS WITH SANTA CLAUS at the Southwick Rec Center, 64 Powder Mill Road, from 8 a.m. to noon. Prizes will be raffled throughout the morning and Santa Claus will be available for photos. The cost for breakfast is \$8 per adult and \$5 for children under 12.

Monday, Dec. 5

A CHRISTMAS DINNER at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Cost is \$10. Tickets may be reserved by calling the church office at 413-786-

SHAWN PETERSON WILL DISCUSS HIS PASSION FOR ALL THINGS PEZ and the history of the company that makes it in a presentation based on his new book "PEZ: From Austrian Invention to American Icon" at the Agawam Library at 7 p.m. To register, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Tuesday, Dec. 6

YULETIDE OPEN HOUSE TOURS today through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Storrowton Village Museum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission \$5; free for children

Wednesday, Dec. 7

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL begins at 6:30 p.m. Art exhibits, vocal performances provided by choral students, Tenal Tenacity, the Belle-Tones, and Ear Candy.

Admission \$5 per person. The high school is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

HOLIDAY VENDOR FAIR at The Cove -Tavern, 90 Point Grove Road, Soutwhick from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7. Food and drink will be available

YULETIDE BY LANTERN LIGHT from 6 to 8 p.m. in Storrowton Village Museum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission \$5; free for children under 6.

Thursday, Dec. 8

EASTERN DOG CLUB ALL BREED DOG SHOW today through Sunday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

Saturday, Dec. 10

WINTER MARKET will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. inside the Episcopal Church of the Atonement, 36 Court St., Westfield and will include vendors with seasonal products and local crafters with pottery, candles, woodcrafts and home decorating items. The building is handicap accessible with free parking, and professional babysitting is provided.

ANTIQUE AND MODERN FIREARMS today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission \$12; free for children under 12 with parent / guardian. Coupon available online.

Sunday, Dec. 11

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-

Wednesday, Dec. 14

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

Saturday, Dec. 17

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT at Second Baptist Church of Suffield, 100 N. Main St. at 3 p.m. Free will offering to benefit the Fuel Bank administered by the Suffield Emergency Aid Association.

BAKE SALE at Saint Peter and Saint Paul Russian Orthodox Church, 118 Carew St., Springfield, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17. Items for sale will include Christmas cookies, baked items, perogies and stuffed cabbage. Orders will be taken until Dec. 7. To place an order, call 413-786-7693.

ONGOING

THE FRIENDS OF THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY'S Open Juried Art Show is on display at the Agawam Public Library through Nov. 25. The artwork may be seen Mondays through Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam, and can be reached by phone at 413-789-1550.

BEGINNER TAI CHI classes at the Southwick Senior Center on Wednesdays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Easy stretching and slow, gentle movements that improve balance and strength and enhance the immune system. For more information, call 413-569-5498.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT & KNIT meets at the Agawam Public Library at 750 Cooper St. Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. Bring your sticks and join other knitters for creative time. No registration is required.

GRANDPARENT'S PLAYGROUP Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. This free infant and toddler playgroup features music and movement, fostering children's interactions and sharing skills. Open to all grandparents and their grandchildren. Follows school schedule.

MOM 2 MOM takes place the second Tuesday of every month October through June, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. A round-table discussion hosted by a local "veteran" mom, this is a great way to have further conversation on recent café themes and parent education events, celebrate parenting and receive encouragement for the trials.

THE WESTFIELD WOMAN'S CLUB's clubhouse is available for rentals for wedding receptions, bridal showers, baby showers, graduation celebrations, and birthday and anniversary parties by the hour or the day. For more information, Lilian at 413-568-2916.

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level classroom at St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandlin at rosemarysandlin@gmail.com

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage Woods Assisted Facility, 462 Main St., Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www. survivorjourneys.org.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at 888-613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deduct-

Agawam Senior Center -

Lunch Menu

Monday, Nov. 28: Chicken supreme in a light gravy, au gratin potatoes, broccoli, oranges.

Tuesday, Nov. 29: Country pie, garden salad, pud-

ding. **Wednesday, Nov. 30:** Roast pork, gravy, roasted potatoes and carrots, applesauce.

Thursday, Dec. 1: Minestrone soup, cheeseburger on a roll with lettuce and tomato, mixed fruit. Friday, Dec. 2: Baked fish, rice pilaf, vegetable

blend, baked good.

Calendar of Events

Monday, Nov. 28: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:30 a.m., line dancing, 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Writing Club; 1 p.m., Bingo; 1:15 p.m., Health New England seminar (Veterans Hall); 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, Nov. 29: S.H.I.N.E. representative (by

appt.); 9 a.m., exercise, open knitting / sewing class; 10 a.m., chair exercise; noon, ladies only billiards; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., chorus; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance.

Wednesday, Nov. 30: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., ballroom lessons, scrabble; 1-3 p.m., Clara's line dance party (\$5); 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, Dec. 1: 9 a.m., exercise; 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, open art; 2 p.m., Melody Band practice; 6:30 p.m., pitch.

Friday, Dec. 2: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., Let's Paint; no tai chi today; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 7 p.m., Applause Series at Senior Center.

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visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING **AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL**

The Agawam City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 5, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the Request for a Gas Storage License at the Property located at 702 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, Ma. 01030 as submitted by Robbie L. Dineen for Soldier On. The Gas Storage License request is to place three (3) 2,000 gallon permanent propane tanks along with three (3) temporary 1,000 gallon and four (4) 120 gallon temporary above ground propane storage tanks to be used for temporary heat this fall and winter. The three (3) 2,000 gallon permanent propane tanks will not be filled until after the temporary tanks are removed from the site. A copy of the proposed Gas Storage License can be obtained from the Agawam City Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street,

Agawam, MA. BY ORDER OF: James P. Cichetti City Council President 11/17, 11/24/16

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD15P1084PM In the matter of: Obafemi Morakinyo Of: Agawam, MA **Protected Person/** Disabled Person/ Respondent CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **First** account(s) of James W Gelinas of Chicopee, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on

or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 12/07/2016. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the account(s) at no cost to you

IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Anne M Geoffrion, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 09, 2016 Suzanne T. Seguin Register of Probate

11/24/16

LEGAL NOTICE **PUBLIC HEARING AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL**

The Agawam City Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, December 5, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at a Regular Meeting of the Agawam City Council in the Auditorium of the Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA on the proposed TR-2016-64 which is a Resolution adopting the "Stretch Energy Code" for the Town of Agawam as submitted by Councilors Rossi and Rheault. TR-2016-64 is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

BY ORDER OF:

James P. Cichetti City Council President 11/17/, 11/24/16

LEGAL NOTICE **PUBLIC HEARING AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL**

The Agawam City Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, December 19, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at the Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA to consider the Petition as certified by the City Clerk on October 24, 2016 and as submitted to the City Clerk by the William Clark on October 4, 2016 and October 19, 2016.

The Petition is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

BY ORDER OF: James P. Cichetti President of the City Council 11/24, 12/1/16

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



Adam Kiefer & Maggie Shea Green Bay, WI/Wilbraham April 16, 2016

Please include this information with photo:

If you would like your photos returned please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Photo must be received by December 2, 2016.

Name of Bride:

Bride's Residence:

Name of Groom:

Groom's Residence:

Date of Wedding:



Lisa Mues & Daniel Distler Warren/Rock Point, NY **September 16, 2017**

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the Agawam Advertiser News should be sent directly to klanier@ turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@ turley.com.

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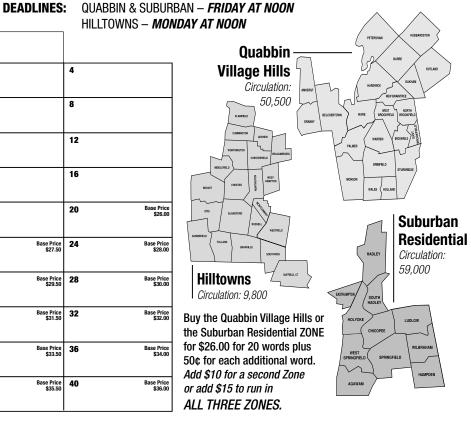
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Real Estate Wanted

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A BEST CASH offer for any type property, circumstance, condition or location. Ugly houses are OK. Fast closing. (413)244-

Mobile Homes

INDIAN ORCHARD 2 bedrooms Spacious, large private lot, eat-in kitchen, enclosed porch, paved driveway, deck, \$39.900.413-593-9961 DASAP.MHVILLAGE.COM

For Rent



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise limitation, preference. 10 discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not preference. knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

For Rent

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is

LUDLOW 3 BD duplex, 1.5 bath central air/ vac, remodeled kitchen, gas heat. NO PETS. First, last, security \$1,175 (413)589-

MONSON HOUSE FOR rent: Wooded area cape, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully appliance, \$1500 month. Call 413.289.1285

WARE NICEST 2 bedroom apartment around. Spacious, clean, 1st floor, W/D hookups, dishwasher, off-street parking, nice area on Palmer Road. NO NO Background & credit checks, references. \$925 plus utilities. 1st, last, security. CALL 413-277-9900

Commercial Rentals

COMMERCIAL LUDLOW **IDEAL LOCATION** A Luxury Apt.

Heated garage, all granite with modern appliances, year round sun room, skylight, all wood floors plus a large office space, 46" TV, fireplace, under counter refrigerator, extra 2 half baths, private office, \$1550 includes free parking lot, move-in ready, (413)342-7009

LUDLOW COMMERCIAL, PRIVATE PARKING,

Snow removal, dumpster, dusk to dawn lighting, 7-24 surveillance. move-in ready, 15x30 ft. heated garage ideal location for medical profession, professional offices, gift boutique and home office \$1,550 plus utilities. Location 293 State Street (413)342-7009

Vacation Rentals

WARM WEATHER IS year round in Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. \$3500. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more

Autos Wanted

\$\$\$ AUTOS WANTED TOP Dollar paid for your unwanted cars, trucks, vans, big and small, running or not. Call 413-534-5400.



Buzzin' From Town To Town

Our Town

ENGAGEMENT



Erica Roman and David Zaffetti. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Roman – Zaffetti

Debbie and Robert Zaffetti, of Feeding Hills, announce the engagement of their son, David Zaffetti, to Erica Roman, daughter of Linda Roman and the late George Ro-

The future groom graduated from Agawam High School and Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. He is a business consultant with Aetna Insurance Co. in Hartford. The bride-to-be graduated from Bristol Central High School in Bristol, Conn., and Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, Conn. She is a residency program coordinator at UConn Health in Farmington, Conn. An October 2017 wedding is planned.

Florida 'Agawam Day' is March 1 in St. Pete

The 36th annual "Agawam Day in Florida" will be held Wednesday, March 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Former Agawam residents, old friends, classmates and relatives will meet at Fort DeSoto National Park, St. Petersburg, Fla., for a reunion, picnic, raffles, hugs and old memories.

For information on next year's event, contact Hank Drewnowski at 860-462-7273 or email hdrew2452@gmail.com.

Local band plays fundraiser to send AHS classmate to volleyball tourney in Europe

Former Agawam High School volleyball standout Bailey Cecchi has been selected to represent his hometown, school and country as a member of the USA Athletes International Volleyball Team, set to compete at the 37700 DKV Tournament in Holland from May 15 to 24, 2017.

A dinner and concert has been planned to raise funds to offset the estimated \$5,000 travel expenses. The dinner will take place on Saturday, Nov. 26, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Italian Sporting Club, 349 Cooper St, Agawam. A concert by the band Farmhouse will take place immediately after the dinner, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door or by calling Laurie Cecchi at 413-505-9547; the \$15 cost includes dinner and the concert. The evening will also include a Chinese raffle featuring baskets donated by local businesses. Tickets for a chance to win an eight-day, seven-night trip for two to Barbados sponsored by USAAI will also be available. After 7:30 pm, concert-only tickets will be available for \$10.

Cecchi, a 2014 Agawam High School graduate, is currently a junior and NCAA Division III volleyball player at Sage College in Albany, N.Y. Cecchi is the son of David and Laurie Cecchi of Agawam.



The local band Farmhouse will perform at a benefit concert Nov. 26 to raise funds to send Agawam volleyball player Bailey Cecchi to an international volleyball tournament in the Netherlands in May 2017. Farmhouse consists of vocalist Ashley Theroux, bassist Tyler Roberts, guitarist Alex Sours and drummer Erek Brown. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY CONNOR WIER

Divine Elegance opens



A grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Saturday, Nov. 12, at Divine Elegance Beauty Boutique and Spa, 168 Elm St., Agawam. Mayor Richard Cohen, center, assisted in cutting the ribbon. Pictured at the celebration are, from left, Chantal Haracsy, Liam Lucey, owner Christina Haracsy, Devyn Williamson, Nate Kerr, West of the River Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Robin Wozniak, Cohen, Cassaundra Kerr, Alyssa Amato and Heather MacDonald. SUBMITTED PHOTO

BluesHead brings R&B to free concert

BluesHead Band returns to the Agawam Senior Center next Friday for an evening of Chicago-style rhythm and blues.

Steeped in classic roadhouse blues, classic rock and soul, the band consists of harmonica player and singer Johnny Charles, Agawam guitarist Carl Hopkins, bass player Tom Terry and veteran drummer Billy Klock. They will play a free concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, as part of the Agawam Cultural Council's Applause Series. The Agawam Senior Center is at 954 Main St. and can be reached by phone at 413-821-0604.

Additional information on each of the Applause Series events is available at www.agawamcc.org.

The Agawam Cultural Council is an all-volunteer local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, which provides some of its

Church Directory

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

745 Main St., Agawam 786-7111 Pastor: Rev. Greg E. Dawson office@AgawamCong.com www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m. Communion on the first Sunday of the Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service.

"A place to call home ~ A people to call

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

459 Mill St., Feeding Hills 413-786-4174 Pastor: Ken Blanchard www.agawamworship.org

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion served 1st Sundays Prepare meal for Samaritan Inn Homeless Shelter 2nd Saturdays 2-5 p.m. Offsite Worship: Heritage East, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m. Heritage North, 1st Tuesdays, 11 a.m. Heritage Woods, 1st Wednesdays, 11 a.m. Country Estates, 2nd and 5th Thursdays,

BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

580 Main St., Agawam (413) 789-2930 www.bethany-ag.org Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams WORSHIP SERVICES Sunday 9am & 10:45am Christian Education offered during both Nightlife Contemporary Service: Sunday Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF REDEMPTION

50 Maple St., Agawam (413) 304-2313 churchor.org

WORSHIP SERVICES Sunday Services, 10 a.m. Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children Community Night: The first Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. Free dinner served.

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

370 Shoemaker Lane Agawam (413) 786-1681 iesussaves.7@comcast.net Church Website: www.faithbible -church. Pastor: Rick Donofrio

SERVICES Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

"An Open and Affirming Congregation." 21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills P.O. Box 264 (413) 786-5061 fhccucc@comcast.net Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP Church School 10:15 a.m.

Worship Service 10 a.m. Infant and child care provided. Handicap accessible.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AGAWAM

760 Main St., Agawam churchedie@comcast.net www.firstbaptistagawam.org Pastor: Rev. George Thomson

SLINDAY SERVICES Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School (grades K - 5) following Children's Message until 10:45 Youth Group meets at 11 a.m. Coffee & Conversation following worship service

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH 152 South Westfield St.

Feeding Hills 789-2026

SUNDAY SERVICES Men's & Women's Bible Study Groups and Children's Sunday School Worship Service at 10 a.m. Children's Church for age 3 to high school takes place after the service. Nursery available for younger children. A time for fellowship after the service.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

522 Springfield Street Feeding Hills, MA 01030 413-821-0937 Senior Elders Bob and Barbara Olmstead Email: office@lighthousema.com Web: www.lighthousema.com

WORSHIP SERVICE Saturday evening Celebration at 6 to 8 PM Saturday evening Prayer from 5 - 5.45

1-hour classes for children ages 3 to 12 during service

Nursery available for younger children SMALL GROUP MEETINGS in homes during the week (call or see website for more information)

MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH

522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills Feeding Hills, MA 478-9484 David L. Short, Pastor

Sunday Familly Bible Study Hour, 9:45 Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m. Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills (413) 786-8200 www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org Fr. Steven Amo

WEEKLY SERVICES Lord's Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m. Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to the Sacred Heart following the Friday 9 a.m. Mass

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Harvey Hill 699 Springfield St. Feeding Hills (413) 786-6133 saintdavids@comcast.net www.stdavidsagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday 8 a.m. Rite I and Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. Rite II and Holy Eucharist Sunday school and Nursery during 10 Coffee hour following the 10 a.m. service Handicap Accessible

OFFSITE WORSHIP Church without Walls, 2nd Sunday of the month at 12 p.m. at Parish Pantry, West Springfield Holy Eucharist and distribution of bag

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH Fr. Brian McGrath, Pastor

823 Main St., Agawam 786-8105 office@stjohnagawam.org www.stjohnagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES Saturdays: 4 p.m. (English), 6 p.m. (Extraordinary Latin Rite) Sundays: 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Weekdays: Monday through Saturday, 8

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. CONFESSION: Saturdays: 3 to 3:45 p.m., or by appointment.









BANQUET FACILITIES

Chandlers at Yankee Candle - Voted the most romantic restaurant and best wine list in the valley for 10 years. Voted official best family restaurant of Massachusetts. South Deerfield, MA. 413-665-1277 or log onto chandlersyankeecandle.com.

Look Park Garden House - Gazebo, Pine Theater and Sanctuary for wedding receptions and ceremonies, meetings, banquets and events for up to 170 people. 300 North Main Street, Rt. 9, Florence, MA. 413-584-2220. www.lookpark.org.

Magic Wings Butterfly & Conservatory Gardens - You and your guests will be surrounded by 4,000 beautiful butterflies in a tropical setting anytime of the year! Accommodations for up to 100 for your ceremony and reception. All inclusive wedding packages available. We also host pre-wedding and rehearsal dinner parties. 281 Greenfield Rd., Scenic Routes 5 & 10, South Deerfield, MA. 413-665-2805. www. magicwings.com.

Publick House Historic Inn & Country Lodge – We have been creating picturesque New England weddings for over 230 years. Visit us online at www.publickhouse.com or call 508-347-3313.

Sheraton Springfield – One Monarch Place. Your Weekend Wedding Destination; rehearsal dinner, wedding and post nuptial brunch all in the comfort of one location. Newly renovated, atrium style hotel with ballroom seating for up to 500 guests. Complimentary suite for the Bride & Groom, Rolls Royce, Centerpieces and Parking included in all packages. Contact Kristen Muszynski, your personal wedding consultant at 413-263-2117 or kmuszynski@sheratonspringfield.com to set up your tour today!

Storrowton Tavern – Storrowton Tavern & Carriage House is a landmark area facility located on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition. The operators of the facility, the Calvanese family, have over 45 years of hospitality experience. They offer beautifully landscaped grounds, terraced patios and an upscale banquet facility that can serve 400 guests. For more information please visit ww.storrowtontavern.com. We are located at 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089. 413.732.4188. info@storrowton.com.

Union Station - Northampton's Union Station was designed by American architect H. H. Richardson in 1886. This historic train depot has been extensively renovated to contain one of the most elegant and unique banquet facilities in all of New England. The Grand Ballroom at Union Station. www.unionstationbanquets.com.

The Wherehouse? - Located downtown in historic Holyoke. The most unusual and interesting banquet function facility you've ever seen! Call today for your appointment, 413-534-3039. Visit us online at www.the-wherehouse.com.

BEAUTY & HEALTH

Brooks & Butterfield THE • DAY • SPA - Relaxed. Beautiful. Confident. Voted the Best Day Spa 9 years in a row. 140 Main Street, Northampton. 413-586-0366. www.brooksandbutterfield.com.

CAKES

Atkins Farms Country Market – For over 20 years, our cakes have been made from scratch, and we use only the highest quality ingredients. Decorated with beautifully hand crafted frosting flowers and topped with probably the best butter cream icing you'll taste anywhere. Our cake has had rave reviews from our customers from all around the Pioneer Valley where we are also well renowned for our quality baked goods. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

Moore Cakes – Beautifully designed and sinfully delicious cakes since 1981. Contact Karen Moore at karenmoorecakes@yahoo.com, 413-436-7350. 47 Hillside Ave., Warren, MA. www.mooreyummycakes.com.

CATERERS

UMass Catering - Premier caterer serving the Pioneer Valley with beautiful views in the heart of the UMass Amherst Campus. 413-577-1234. Visit us online at www.umass.edu/catering.

FLORISTS

Atkins Farms Country Market – Atkins Flower Shop is managed by three full-time experienced floral designers to assist you in planning the wedding of your dreams. You can be assured of receiving the excellent service and quality products from the floral department that you have come to expect from Atkins. Their work is beautiful and expertly done and offered to you at prices that are surprisingly reasonable. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

Otto Florist & Gifts - Traditional or contemporary, elegant or rustic our experienced designers work within your budget to create the wedding of your dreams! Call 413-967-5381 for an appointment. 7 North St., Ware.

Sixteen Acres Garden Center – The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center has been servicing Springfield for over 50 years. Our professional staff members aim to provide a service that is unique and tailored to suit individual needs. We provide a complete, high quality range of floral products at competitive prices. The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center offers flowers that are fresh daily and we take great pride in our work. We have arrangements for all different occasions and all budgets. For professional and experienced service please contact us at 413-783-5883. Located at 1359 Wilbraham Rd., Springfield, MA. Visit us on the web at www.16acresgardencenter.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Karen Geaghan Photography - My life, my passion, my love! Specializing in Life Cycle Photography: Weddings, Maternity, Newborn, Children & Families. Doing small things with great love because in the end I believe it's the little things that count the most. Clients become family! Visit me at www.karengeaghanphotos.com or call 413-596-2227 or 537-3001. I would LOVE to hear from you!

RENTALS

Michael's Party Rentals - We have a tent for your event and so much more. With over 15 years of experience, Michael's is your one stop shop for all your rental needs. From tents, tables and chairs to glassware and linens we have you covered for any occasion. Call us today for a quote 413-589-7368 or visit us on the web at michaelspartyrentals.com.